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Germany

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

AI update: 127 cases in wild birds none in domestic poultry

2006

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Report Highlights:

As of March 1, 2006, Germany reports 127 cases of high pathogen H5N1 Avian Influenza (AI) in wild birds. A cat was also found with H5N1, with the pathogen test still pending. As a preventative measure all cats have to be kept indoors and dogs have to be kept on a leash in the protection and surveillance zones.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Berlin [GM1]
[GM]

As of March 1, 2006, Germany has 127 confirmed cases of high-pathogen H5N1 Avian Influenza (AI) in wild birds. Five out of the 16 Federal German States are affected. Most of the cases (112) were detected on the Island of Ruegen in the Baltic Sea. Additional nine cases were found on the shore of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, three cases were reported from Lake Constance in Baden-Wuerttemberg in southern Germany, two in Schleswig-Holstein, and one case in the State of Brandenburg.

So far domestic poultry is not affected. Additional tests performed on a duck suspected of having AI, located on a farm in Ruegen (February 23, 2006), proved negative.

**Table: Confirmed high pathogen H5N1 cases in wild birds by State
as of March 1, 2006**

State	Confirmed cases
Mecklenburg-West Pomerania ¹	121
Baden-Wuerttemberg	3
Schleswig-Holstein	2
Brandenburg	1
Total	127

Source: FAS/Berlin based on information from the individual states

On February 28, 2006, H5N1 was confirmed in a dead cat that was found in Ruegen near the area where the first dead swans were found. However, it is not clear yet, whether it is the high pathogen or the low pathogen strain of H5N1. Nevertheless, as a preventative measure, the German task force decided on March 1, 2006, that all cats have to be kept indoors and all dogs have to be kept on a leash in all protection and surveillance zones throughout Germany. In addition, all dead or suspicious mammals found within these zones will be tested for H5N1.

¹ The Island of Ruegen is part of the State of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.